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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/599,825 | 10/11/2006 | Victor Martinus Gerardus Van Acht | NL 040362 | 5207 |
| 24737 | 7590 | 12/07/2007 | EXAMINER | |
| PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS | | | IQBAL, NADEEM | |
| P.O. BOX 3001 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510 | | | 2114 | |
| MAIL DATE | | DELIVERY MODE | | |
| 12/07/2007 | | PAPER | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/599,825 | VAN ACHT ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Nadeem Iqbal | 2114 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 11, 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3,5,9 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 4 and 6-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
3. The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.
4. As per claims 3 & 9, the meaning of limitations pertain to “a cache management unit arranged to select a storage bit information from the associative memory for reuse for bit position information for a particular grouplocation is in use for that particular group” is not clear either because of a literal translation into English from a foreign document and/or grammatical and idiomatic errors. Similar problems are found with claim 9 pertains to limitation “the groups containing to words that have bit positions for which data is stored in transistors”.

Claim Objections

5. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 4 word “form” needs to be changed to “from” for proper meaning. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1, 2, 5, & 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Choi (U.S. Patent number 6233717).

8. As per claim 1, Choi discloses a data handling device comprising a data memory with an address input and a data output, outputting multi-bit words, the memory having a structure that gives rise to potential errors (col. 3, lines 26-30). Also discloses is an erasure memory unit coupled to the address input and arranged to store bit position information associated with the group of the words, and to output the bit position information when a word from the group for which bit position information is stored is addressed (col. 3, lines 32-36), an error correction and detection unit coupled to the data output of the data memory and to the erasure memory unit and arranged to correct words from the data memory, using error erasure for bits at bit position s selected by the bit position information (col. 3, lines 44-47).

9. As per claims 2 & 5, Choi discloses the erasure memory unit comprises an associative memory comprising one or more storage locations for storing bit information for no more than a subset of all groups of words in the data memory (col. 5, lines 1-5, col. 6, lines 11-15).

10. As per claim 10, Choi discloses a method of reading multi-bit word from a data memory comprising keeping bit position information associated with at least one group of the words in storage in association with an identification of the group (col. 3, lines 30-35), Also discloses is

an erasure memory unit coupled to the address input and arranged to store bit position information associated with the group of the words, and to output the bit position information when a word from the group for which bit position information is stored is addressed (col. 3, lines 32-36), an error correction and detection unit coupled to the data output of the data memory and to the erasure memory unit and arranged to correct words from the data memory, using error erasure for bits at bit position s selected by the bit position information (col. 3, lines 44-47).

Allowable Subject Matter

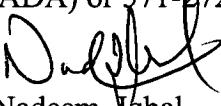
11. Claims 4, 6-8 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nadeem Iqbal whose telephone number is (571)-272-3659. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Scott Baderman can be reached on (571)-272-3644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Nadeem Qbal
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2114

NI